

Application No.:09/707,710
Amendment dated: October 23, 2003
Reply to Office Action of September 24, 2003

b.) Remarks

Claims 6-19 are pending in this application. Claims 6, 9, and 14-16 have been amended in various particulars as indicated hereinabove.

Claims 6-8, 10, 12, 13, and 16-19 were rejected as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 4,673,244 to Miles (hereinafter Miles Patent). Further, claims 9, 11, 14, and 15 were rejected as being unpatentable or obvious over the Miles Patent, in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,345,059 to Flanders (hereinafter Flanders Patent).

Consideration of the arguments in the Examiner's Answer led to reconsideration of Applicants' position and a strategy for amending the claims to hopefully expedite prosecution and issuance of this application. It is hoped that the foregoing amendments will avoid the pending rejections.

Specifically, the Miles patent does not show "after the step of securing the endface to the bench, detecting a polarization extinction ratio of light transmitted through the fiber from the semiconductor chip. As noted in the Answer, Miles seals the package feedthrough. See Miles at col. 5, lines 39-51. There is no teaching of PER compensation after bench attach.

Thus, applicants believe that the rejections should be withdrawn.

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Applicants believe that the present application is in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited. Should any questions arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



By
J. Grant Houston
Registration No.: 35,900
Tel.: 978-439-3479
Fax: 978-262-0035

Billerica, Massachusetts 01821
Date: October 23, 2003

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